



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

***Raised Bill No. 126***

LCO No. 1387

\*01387\_\_\_\_ENV\*

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING UNIFORM INSPECTION PROCEDURES FOR FARMERS' MARKETS, FARMS, FARM PRODUCTS AND FRESH PRODUCE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For purposes of this  
2 section:

3 (1) "Farmers' market" means a cooperative or nonprofit enterprise or  
4 association that consistently occupies a given site throughout the  
5 season, which operates principally as a common marketplace for a  
6 group of farmers, at least two of whom are selling Connecticut-grown  
7 fresh produce, to sell Connecticut-grown farm products directly to  
8 consumers and to sell fresh produce to food service establishments, as  
9 defined in section 19-13-B42 of the regulations of Connecticut state  
10 agencies, and where the farm products sold are produced by the  
11 participating farmers with the sole intent and purpose of generating a  
12 portion of household income;

13 (2) "Fresh produce" means fruits and vegetables that have not been  
14 processed in any manner;

15 (3) "Farm" has the meaning ascribed to it in subsection (q) of section  
16 1-1 of the general statutes;

17 (4) "Farm products" means any fresh fruits, vegetables, mushrooms,  
18 nuts, shell eggs, honey or other bee products, maple syrup or maple  
19 sugar, flowers, nursery stock and other horticultural commodities,  
20 livestock food products, including meat, milk, cheese and other dairy  
21 products, food products of "aquaculture", as defined in subsection (q)  
22 of section 1-1 of the general statutes, products from any tree, vine or  
23 plant and their flowers, or any of the products listed in this  
24 subdivision that have been processed by the participating farmer,  
25 including, but not limited to, baked goods.

26 (b) Not later than December 31, 2008, the Commissioner of  
27 Agriculture shall develop uniform procedures to be followed by state  
28 and local health officials when inspecting farmers' markets, farms,  
29 farm products and fresh produce sold at retail by farmers in the state.  
30 In developing such uniform procedures, the commissioner shall  
31 consult with interested parties and the Commissioner of Public Health.

32 (c) The procedures developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
33 section shall be posted on the Internet web site of the Department of  
34 Agriculture.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To promote uniformity in the inspection of farmers' markets, farms, farm products and fresh produce sold at retail by farmers in the state.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*